

EPA-1281

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To Phil North
cc
bcc
Subject Bristol Bay in the News April 30, 2012

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The CEO of Rio Tinto – a substantial investor in one of the two companies behind the Pebble project – said last week that he does not support an open-pit mine at the site. "I'm interested in looking at it from an underground perspective; I have no interest in looking at it from an overground perspective," said CEO Tom Albanese, who has experience in Alaska and with copper mines. "An open pit mine is not the way to go...in my opinion."

A contingent of Alaskans and others traveled to London to the annual shareholder meetings of Anglo American and Rio Tinto to press their case against the Pebble dig. Bob Waldrop, executive director of the Bristol Bay Regional Seafood Development Association said both meetings were "enormously important" because of the frank private discussions the Alaskans were able to conduct with both firms.

Conde Nast Traveler magazine has an extensive feature story with photos and charts called "Bristol Bay: Alaska's Latest Eco-Political Battleground." The story describes how much is at stake for the entire region with the Pebble project. An excerpt reads: "When I first heard about the mine in 2004, I thought: 'Great, it'll bring jobs to the region,' □" recalls Brian Kraft, co-owner of the Alaska Sportsman's Lodge, which sits on the Kvichak, just a few miles from the proposed mine site. "But the more questions I asked about Pebble, the more uncomfortable I got." When he asked PLP to name an open-pit mine that hadn't polluted the water, he says, "they couldn't."

An Alaskan geologist says only seven pages out of 30,800 of Pebble's "environmental baseline data" are devoted to earthquake risk. In an opinion piece in the *Anchorage Daily News*, Dr. Bretwood Higman writes that no one has pinpointed the Lake Clark fault and Pebble is claiming the seismic risk is low when it's really unknown. He adds, "If these seven pages contain bad science on such a critical issue as earthquake risk, what about the other 30,793?"

And, mining expert and blogger Jack Caldwell advises Pebble investors to divest. He writes, "The Pebble Mine cannot cheaply or safely dispose of their tailings. So avoid them as an investment. News reports this week talk of tailings dams as big and as long as the Great Wall of China. This is a good analogy. And one day those dams will fail and wipe out the salmon industry, regardless of what you say." Lastly, additional

articles about the Sportsmen Summit in D.C. April 16 and 17 continue to circulate.

To learn more, visit www.savebristolbay.org

Shoren Brown

Bristol Bay Campaign Director

Tim Bristol

Trout Unlimited Alaska Director

UP Fly-Fishing guide joins fight for Alaska's Bristol Bay nation's capital

Sam Eggleston

Upper Peninsula Second Wave

You don't have to be living in an area to be passionate about protecting it--just ask Brad Petzke of Rivers North Guide Service here in the Upper Peninsula... [Click here to read more](#)

Rio Tinto CEO: No Interest In Pebble Project As An Open-Pit Mine

Dow Jones Newswires

Fox Business News

Rio Tinto PLC (RIO) has no interest in seeing the Alaskan copper and gold Pebble project developed as an open pit mine given the concerns about its environmental impact, although it thinks it would be worth exploring the project as an underground mine... [Click here to read more](#)

The War over Alaska's Soul - Bristol Bay: Alaska's Latest Eco-Political Battleground

Alex Prud'Homme

Conde Nast

Like much of the Alaskan bush, the landscape surrounding the austere, pewter-colored expanse of Bristol Bay is unlike anything you'll see in the Lower 48 (a place locals refer to as "America"). This tableau of clear rivers, craggy peaks, bright glaciers, and endless tundra supports an exceptional abundance of wildlife, including 15 species of whale (two of them endangered); four migratory flyways that bring birds from Africa, Asia, the Pacific, and the Americas; and the last pristine sockeye salmon fishery in the world... [Click here to read more](#)

National sportsmen's contingent wants Bristol Bay protected

Margaret Bauman

The Cordova Times

A contingent of hunting and sport fishing leaders from 17 states is asking the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to use its authority to implement the Clean Water Act to keep mining disposal sites out of the headwaters of the Bristol Bay watershed... [Click here to read more](#)

Salmon versus gold

Commercial Fishermen For Bristol Bay

The Board and shareholders of UK-based giant Anglo American are facing a growing barrage of opposition to its plans for a massive gold and copper mine in Alaska's Bristol Bay... [Click here to read more](#)

Alaskans Travel to London to lobby corporations on Pebble

Margaret Bauman

Alaska Dispatch and The Cordova Times

A contingent of Alaskans concerned that development of the Pebble copper, gold and molybdenum prospect in Southwest Alaska would adversely affect fisheries recently met officials with Anglo American PLC, a major partner in the venture, in London...

[Click here to read more](#)

Pebble Partnership's quake data lacking

Bretwood Higman

Anchorage Daily News

Ken Taylor, the outgoing vice president of environment for the Pebble Partnership, invited Alaskans to read their recently released Environmental Baseline Document (EBD) in a Compass piece dated March 16. He encouraged citizens worried about Pebble to dive into its 30,800 pages. The document doesn't describe mine plans, so it's unclear how it would alleviate concerns about mine development... [Click here to read more](#)

Pebble Mine and Anglo American Investment advice

Jack Caldwell

I Think Mining

This week's mining investment advice follows...My actions tomorrow include selling all shares in Anglo American and anything to do with the Pebble Mine in Alaska. (To be honest, I did this a long time ago, but would do it again with a vengeance if I had any left)... [Click here to read more](#)

Recycling makes a difference

Nina Faust

Homer News

Mining companies are opening new mines for precious metals to make things we want, especially electronics new computers, iPods, and of course, cell phones. Every year, all across the world horrendous piles of electronics are dumped into landfills, burying all the precious metals used to manufacture these items... [Click here to read more](#)

Letter: Open Pit mining would put Bristol Bay wilderness in Jeopardy

Ray Anderson River Falls, WI

The Republican Eagle

As a member of several environmental organizations I am outraged that the world's most powerful foreign-owned mining corporations, including Anglo America and Rio Tinto, are planning to dig one of the world's largest open-pit mines in the heart of the watershed that feeds Alaska's incomparable Bristol Bay wilderness... [Click here to read](#)